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A
LETTER
TO
GEORGE,
EARL OF LEICESTER,
PRESIDENT
OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES,
Ε. Ε. Ε.

READ TO THE SOCIETY, FEB. 7, 1788.

FROM
JOHN HENNIKER, Esq. 16.
M. A. F. R. S. S. A. and M. P.
ONE OF THE BARONS OF THE CINQUE PORTS FOR
NEW ROMNEY.

Σημεῖ' ἰδὼν τότ' ἀσπίδων ἐγνώρισα,
Ἄ προσδεδορκῶς οἶδα τὰς ὠπλισμένους.

ΕΥΡΗΗΔΟΤ ΦΟΙΝΙΣΣΑΙ.

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LETTER

TO

GEORGE

BARON OF LICHFIELD

PRESIDENT

OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES

OF THE CITY

ADDRESSED TO THE SOCIETY, 1792

FROM

JOHN HENNINGER, ESQ.

M.A. F.R.S. &c. &c.

ONE OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE SOCIETY

14 MAY

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A LETTER TO GEORGE,
EARL OF LEICESTER.

CHARLOTTE-STREET,

Jan. 21, 1788.

MY LORD,

OK.
THE armorial bearings which I have the honor of transmitting to your Lordship, and to the Society of Antiquaries, were sent to me some time ago from Caen by my brother, Captain Henniker, then resident at the place and studious

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of its antiquities. I have hitherto delayed to bring them forward, waiting for some information on the subject from the Professor of Rhetoric in the University there; to whom I have frequently applied for assistance both by letter and in person. Having now given up all hope of any satisfactory information from him, I have determined to produce them with such gleanings of history as I myself have been able to collect, and with those suggestions which naturally arise from them, in order to elucidate as far as may be their remote antiquity.

THE histories of England and Normandy are so interwoven between the middle of the eleventh and beginning of the thirteenth centuries, that they are reciprocally and mutually interesting to the inhabitants of the two countries. The conquest in particular is a feature so prominent as to have occupied the thoughts and the pens on both sides of the Channel. The number of Norman nobility living at that time have left various traces of their families in both countries remaining to this day ; and to that nobility these coats of arms principally relate.

THEY are stained on tiles which were once part of the building of the *Abbaye aux Hommes* at Caen, the capital of Lower Normandy. William of Poitiers, archdeacon of Lisieux gives us the reason for erecting as well this convent dedicated to St. Stephen the proto-martyr, as the *Abbaye aux Dames* dedicated to the Holy Trinity. He says, that Duke William upon being reproved by the ecclesiastics for having married a relation, sent an embassy to consult the Pope. The Roman Pontiff fearing to provoke a war between the Duke of Normandy and the Earl of Flanders,

whose daughter Matilda the Duke had married, granted them an absolution, but enjoined them to build two abbeys ; the one for men, the other for women. In obedience to which mandate the abbey for the reception of men was erected by the Conqueror, and the abbey for the reception of women by his consort Matilda; and they now remain no inconsiderable monuments of papal power and subtilty.

THE first stone was laid about the year 1064 : the precise time when this convent built by the Conqueror was consecrated is not ex-

actly ascertained. The annals of St. Stephen's place it in the year 1073. Another author says that in the year 1077, the Archbishop of Rouen consecrated this convent in the midst of a great concourse of people, and that the King and his Nobles endowed it with great riches. At any rate, however, the consecration was after the conquest which took place in the year 1066.

I CANNOT more clearly describe the circumstances under which these tiles are found than in the words of that learned antiquary Dr. Ducarel, who made a tour to Normandy for

the express purpose of visiting its antiquities.

“ WITHIN the precinct of this
 “ abbey (the abbey of St. Stephen)
 “ and adjoining to the church, King
 “ William the Conqueror built a
 “ stately palace for his own resi-
 “ dence; several parts of it still
 “ remain; particularly one apart-
 “ ment which is very large, and
 “ makes a noble appearance. The
 “ rooms in this apartment are at
 “ present used as granaries, but
 “ were formerly called the GUARD
 “ CHAMBER and BARONS’ HALL.

“ ONE of these rooms, and in-
 “ deed the principal one now re-
 “ maining, was distinguished by
 “ the name of the GREAT GUARD
 “ CHAMBER. This room, the ceiling
 “ whereof is vaulted, and forms a
 “ most magnificent arch, is lofty
 “ and well-proportioned, being one
 “ hundred and fifty feet in length
 “ and ninety in breadth.

“ THE floor is paved with tiles
 “ [the tiles in question] each near
 “ five inches square, baked almost
 “ to vitrification. Eight rows of
 “ these tiles running from east to
 “ west are charged with different

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“ coats of arms, generally said to
“ be those of the families who
“ attended Duke William in his
“ invasion of England. The in-
“ tervals between each of these
“ rows are filled up with a kind of
“ tessellated pavement ; the middle
“ whereof represents a maze or
“ labyrinth, about ten feet in
“ diameter, and so artfully con-
“ trived, that were we to suppose
“ a man following all the intricate
“ meanders of its volutes, he could
“ not travel less than a mile before
“ he got from one end to the other.
“ The remainder of this floor is
“ inlaid with small squares of

“ different colours, placed alter-
 “ nately, and formed into draught
 “ or chess-boards, for the amuse-
 “ ment of the soldiery whilst on
 “ guard. Turning out of this
 “ room on the left hand you enter
 “ a smaller room called the BA-
 “ RONS’ HALL, twenty-four feet in
 “ breadth, and twenty-seven in
 “ length, paved with the same sort
 “ of tiles as the former ; but with
 “ this difference, that instead of
 “ coats of arms they are stained
 “ with the figures of stags and dogs
 “ in full chase. The walls of this
 “ room seem to have been orna-
 “ mented with escutcheons of arms

“ painted on heater shields, some
“ of which are still remaining.

“ CRITICS in antiquary know-
“ ledge are much divided in their
“ opinion, whether the pavements
“ of these rooms are coeval with
“ William the Conqueror or not ;
“ some alledging that the tiles were
“ stained in his time with the
“ arms of those attending him in
“ his expedition against England ;
“ whilst others insist that the bear-
“ ing of arms, as a family dis-
“ tinction, was unknown during
“ his reign ; and that although the
“ coats of arms of the great Norman

“ nobility are depicted on these
“ tiles, yet several of those coats
“ belong to families who are known
“ not to have been concerned in
“ Duke William’s expedition into
“ England; and that therefore it
“ is more probable this pavement
“ was laid down in the latter part
“ of the reign of King John, whilst
“ he was loitering away his life at
“ Caen with the beautiful Isabel of
“ Angoulesme his Queen, during
“ which period the custom of
“ wearing coats of arms was in-
“ troduced. It is further remark-
“ able, that notwithstanding these
“ rooms have been used as granaries

“ for upwards of four hundred
 “ years, neither the damp of the
 “ wheat, the turning and shifting
 “ of the grain, nor the wooden
 “ shoes and spades of the peasants,
 “ constantly employed in bringing
 “ in and cleansing the wheat have
 “ in the least damaged the floor, or
 “ worn off the painting from the
 “ tiles. The only injury this floor
 “ hath received is the taking up
 “ some few of the tiles, in order to
 “ open funnels through the floor
 “ for the more ready conveyance
 “ of the corn into the rooms be-
 “ neath.”

Dr. Ducarel has omitted to observe, that though the number of the tiles is very great; yet there is only a limited number of *coats of arms*, the representations of which are repeated to make up the number of tiles used in the pavement. The sixteen tiles now offered to the Society contain an exemplar of each coat; and the Monks of the convent upon a late destruction of a part, or of the whole of the pavement, have taken tiles correspondent with these, and fixed them in a row in one of the walls of their garden.

THE account of these tiles above cited has at least established for them a very respectable antiquity. I am inclined, however, to consider them as much prior to the reign of King John, for reasons, which I shall suggest as they offer themselves to my recollection.

IT is not to my purpose to insist with Mr. Edmondson upon the *very* high antiquity of family coats of arms: it is sufficient for me that they existed at the Conquest. Insignia or banners with various devices on shields were used in ancient times by the Greeks, the

Etruscans, and the Romans, as appears by their coins, medals, and earthen ware*. I have no doubt but that this usage, engrafted on the

* The passages in Æschylus and Euripides are, perhaps, the highest authority in point of antiquity for this custom, carrying it back to a period more than four centuries before Christ; the ornaments on the shield of Achilles, are too multifarious to be considered as an armorial bearing. Mr. Potter, the learned and elegant translator of Æschylus, in his introduction to the Seven Champions against Thebes does not scruple to say, "That the shields of six of these chiefs are charged with armorial bearings, expressive of their characters and as regular as if they had been marshaled by an herald at arms." The shield of Amphiaraus is a "shining orb, bearing no impress;" and a reason is given for this omission which proves the general practice, "For his gen'rous soul wishes to *be*, not to *appear*, the best."

Æschylus mentions a *border* on one of the shields, and particularizes mottos inscribed on some of

feudal system, first gave rise to family coats of arms: the former was a national or provincial, the

them. The spy who had been sent to ascertain the number and quality of the besiegers, says to Eteocles, when speaking of his brother Polynices :

“ His well-orb’d shield he holds
 “ New-wrought, and with a double impress charg’d:
 “ A warrior blazing all in golden arms,
 “ A female form of modest aspect leads
 “ Expressing Justice, as th’ inscription speaks,
 “ YET ONCE MORE TO HIS COUNTRY, AND ONCE MORE
 “ TO HIS PATERNAL THRONE I WILL RESTORE HIM.
 “ *Such their devices.*”

Other mottos are also to be found in Æschylus ; but not to swell this note, I shall only observe that the arms of Tydeus, which alone are particularly appropriated by Euripides, are the same in both authors. Æschylus indeed mentions a moon, which is not taken notice of by Antigone in Euripides ; nor was it in character for this princess seeing from the walls of Thebes the besiegers at a distance to note so *minutely* their armorial bearings.

latter a personal distinction, founded however, upon some feudal tenure, which obliged the tenants *in capite* to appear armed and with their dependants in arms upon stated occasions. Banners carried before the troops distinguished as well the leader as the corps : nor was it unlikely that in imitation of ancient times they should ornament their shields with some device, and none was so proper as that which led their followers and animated them to deeds of prowess. As the tenure in process of time became hereditary, (it must have been always

so in some degree) the same banner continued to be borne before the troops and figured on the shield successively by each respective heir after the death of his ancestor. And what was at first the effect of service arising from tenure, became, as the peerages of modern days, a mere personal distinction ; and descended, although at length wholly personal, according to the rules of inheritance. As coats of arms are of feudal origin, so also I think it probable from the structure of a military body upon that institution, that they were coeval with the system.

IT was not till about the time of Rollo's descent in Normandy that the feudal system was much known in the more northern nations. The first Saxons who had established themselves in this country had left a constitution very dissimilar. We find in numberless petitions to our Norman Kings an earnest desire that the old Saxon laws (of Alfred and Edward the Confessor) might be kept in force and practised. The feudal system was certainly introduced into England by the Conqueror, and prevailed in considerable vigour for many centuries. It was not till after the restoration of

Charles the IId. that upon settling the distracted state of this country, the more burthensome and characteristic part was by the law of the land finally lopped off : and we have now the happiness to consider it less as a rule of conduct than as an object of curiosity.

MR. Edmondson, from the Coutumier de Normandie, concludes that
 “ The Normans were so well acquainted with the feudal system
 “ that they planned and established
 “ the form of their government on
 “ that system at the time of their
 “ first settlement in France; in evi-

“ dence of which (he says) we find
 “ that most part of their lands in
 “ Normandy were held of the Duke
 “ by military tenure, and that the
 “ use of hereditary arms as well as
 “ other feudal customs were ob-
 “ served by the nobility, and chief
 “ land-holders of that Dutchy,
 “ Hence (he adds) there cannot be
 “ the least shadow of doubt that
 “ the commanders of those different
 “ Corps which composed Duke
 “ William’s army, when he invaded
 “ this kingdom, made use of the
 “ same marks or tokens of di-
 “ stinction.”

To leave Edmondson for a while I shall next mention some observations which apply to this point of history.

If the English were at that time accustomed to armorial bearings, the fashion probably had been borrowed from the Normans. Harold had often fought in the army of Duke William, and would be inclined as a great warrior (which character he indisputably possessed) to introduce among his own followers a custom which promotes regularity, and inspires emulation. Besides the coat of arms of Edward

the Confessor is still visible in the sculpture of Westminster-Hall, which although built and repaired long after his death, conveys a proof, stronger in proportion as it is more near to the time in which he lived than any more modern suggestion.

I AM the further inclined to give credit to the early use of armorial bearings from the representation of the tapestry at Bayeux, which all in the least conversant in Anglo-Norman antiquities know to have been the work of the consort of King William. It portrays very

particularly the descent made by the Conqueror upon England. I am sorry indeed in the following suggestion to differ from the authority of the learned antiquary first cited. He says, "The bucklers
 " [*i. e.* in the tapestry] are charged
 " with several devices; but these
 " are not to be esteemed as coats of
 " arms, since the custom of bearing
 " such was not introduced till
 " many years after this event."
 But if it appear from what has already been shewn upon the subject, that this position is no longer tenable, its consequence necessarily falls with it. The remark of Dr.

Ducarel, however, proves that any person, not so prejudiced against the antiquity of coats of arms, would from the devices on these bucklers conclude them to be such.

IN several instances those represented as bearing devices on their bucklers, are apparently intended for persons of leaders, or at least of an elevated rank. In one part are several horsemen, with devices strongly marked on their shields. In another the first horseman immediately following Duke William has a device on his shield; the others, probably of inferior note,

have plain shields. Where the passage to England is represented, some vessels are ornamented with shields bearing devices in their sterns; and perhaps in the stern of one is to be distinguished two coats of arms: whether from the owner being married or from his being possessed of two lordships, I will not pretend to determine. The vessel which contains the foot soldiers is the only large vessel whose stern is visible that has no shield with a device on her stern; and although the bucklers of the men are ranged along the side, no device is to be seen on them, which

I take to be a mark of their inferiority as foot-soldiers. Indeed I am inclined to think that in no instance any foot-soldier, as such, has any device represented on his shield. Some warriors on foot have this distinction, but they are completely armed, which I conceive to be a proof that they are horsemen dismounted.

It is, I acknowledge, an objection that these arms are not formed with any regularity, which, had it been found would have been conclusive evidence. But on the other hand we cannot imagine that a

princess whose only object was to memorize the achievements and glory of her husband, would or could in a piece of needle-work so strictly adhere to such minutiae, even if she had been herald sufficient to be conversant in armorial bearings.

IN a pedigree of one of my friends I find the representation of the arms of this same princess to be the exact copy of the tile No. 2. This I doubt not was placed by the founder among the others as a compliment to his consort. And as I can find no reason for this coat having been

introduced at any other period, it not only stands a test of its own antiquity, but from the similarity of the tiles in every respect communicates it to the rest.

I HAVE no scruple to say that I believe these coats of arms were not the bearings of those *only* who attended Duke William in his expedition, which however, will by no means justify any supposition that the arms of some of his followers on that occasion are not to be found among them, or that they are not of equal antiquity with the convent.

THAT they were coeval with the convent, appears from what Mr. Edmondson relates of a picture till lately to have been seen at Ely, in which the portraits, the names, and the coats of arms of several Normans in command under Duke William were, as he says, properly *blazoned**. This deserves our attention, as proving that hereditary gentilitial arms were used

* We find in Bentham's Antiquities of Ely, p. 106, that certain knights and gentlemen of the best families, who were quartered on the monastery, had their arms set up in the refectory or great Hall; these persons remained there till called away to Normandy on the insurrection of Robert the King's son, in the year 1077 or 1078.

by the Normans in this country soon after the invasion.

It seems to me that the bearings on these tiles are prior to those mentioned by Mr. Edmondson. He observes that the arms at Ely were *blazoned*; a perfection, to which the heraldic art at the time of this pavement's being laid in Normandy, had not probably, from the simplicity of their structure, advanced, as two colours only, yellow and brown, form their whole variation.

THAT they were anterior to King John is evident. At the time of

the croisades a general influx of coats of arms took place. The world was mad, and every chief thought he could not act more worthily than lead his followers, however few, in an enterprize to the Holy Land. This producing an intercourse with the feudists, a similitude of habits, an emulation and a greater necessity for this distinction, from the mixture of so many and so different people and nations, the use of coats of arms became more general and more beneficial : and from that time crosses, escallops and other ensigns of pilgrimage, were adopted for ar-

morial devices, to denote the valour, or the sanctity of the bearer. If the coats of arms on these tiles were not prior to the croisades, or at least to any expedition to the Holy Land from Normandy, is it not probable that such bearings would be found among them?

THAT some of the followers of Duke William were among those whose arms are here delineated, is much more than possible. I shall insert the list of them from the Chronicon Johannis Bromton, where will be found several names of families who now continue to

bear coats of arms, some similar to, others precisely the same, as those ascribed to them among the tiles. Coats of arms have often varied from a new acquisition, or from the caprice of an individual of a family. A variation may also have taken place in their names during so long an interval : nor is that to be wondered at, as the same had happened when Bromton wrote.

Vous que desyrez assaver
 Les nons de grauntz de la la mer
 Qe vindrent od le conquerour
 William Bastard degraunt vigoure
 Lours surnons issi vous denys

Com je les trouva en escriis.
 Car des propres nons force n'y a
 Parce q'illis sont chaunges sa et la
 Come de Edmonde en Edwarde
 De Baldwyn en Barnard,
 De Godwyne en Godard
 De Elys en Edwyn,
 Et issint de touz autres nons
 Come ils sont levez du fons
 Parce lours surnons qe sont usez
 Et ne sont pas sovent chaungez
 Vous ay escript ore escotez
 Si vous oier les voylleth
 Maundevyle et Daundevyle
 Ounfravyle et Downfravyle
 Bolvyle et Baskervyle
 Evyle et Clevyle

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Morevyle et Colevyle
Warbevyle et Carvyle
Mooun et Boun
Vipoun et Vinoun
Baylon et Bayloun
Maris et Marmyoun
Agulis et Aguloun
Chaumburleyn et *Chaumbersoun*
Vere et Vernoun
Verdyers et Verdoun
Cryel et Caroun
Dummer et Domoun
Hastyng et Cammois
Bardelfe Botes et Boys
Warrenne et Wardeboys
Rodes et Deverois
Auris et Argenten

Botetour et Boteveleyn
 Malebouch et Malemeyn
 Hautevyle et Hauteyn
 Danvey et Deveyn
 Malure et Malvesyn
 Morten et Mortimer
 Braunz et Columber
 Seynt Denis et Seynt Cler
 Seynt Aubyn et Seynt Omer
 Seynt Fylbert *Fyens* et Gomer
 Turbevyle et Turbemer
 Gorges et Spenser
 Brus et Boteler
 Crevequel et St Quinteyn
 Deverouge et St Martin
 Seynt Mor et Seynt Leger
 Seynt Vigir et Seynt Per

Auynel et Paynell

Pevere et Peverell

Rivers et Rivel

Beaucham et Beaupel

Lou et Lovell

Ros et Druell

Montabours et Mountsorell

Trussebot et Trussell

Bergos et Burnell

Bru et Boterell

Biset et Basset

Malevyle et *Malet*

Bonevyle et Bonet

Nervyle et Narbet

Coynale et Corbet

Mountayn et Mounfychet

Geynevyle et *Gyffard*

Say et Seward
 Chary et Chaward
 Poryton et Pypard
Harecourt et Haunsard
 Musegrave et Musard
 Mare et Mantravers
 Ferns et Ferers
 Bernevyle et Berners
 Cheyne et Chalers
 Daundon et Daungers
 Vessi Gray et Graungers
 Bertram et Bygod
 Traylliz et Tragod
 Penbri et Pypotte
 Freyn et Folyot
 Dapisoun et Talbote
 Sanzaver et Saunford

Vadu et Vatorte

Montagu et Mounford

Forneus et Fornyvaus

Valens Yle et Vaus

Clarel et Claraus

Aubevyle et Seynt Amauns

Agantez et Dragans

Malerbe et Maudut

Brewes et Chaudut

Fitzowres et Fiz de lou

Cantemor et Cantelou

Braybuffe et Huldbynse

Bolebeke et Molyns

Moleton et Besyle

Richford et Desevyle

Watervyle et Dayvyle

Nebors et Nevyle

Hynoy's Burs Burgenon
 Ylebon Hyldebrond Holyon
 Loges et Seint Lou
 Mausbank et Seint Malou
 Wake et Wakevyle
 Coudree et Knevyle
 Scales et Clermount
 Beauvys et Beaumont
 Mouns et Mountchampe
 Nowers et Nowchampe
 Percy Crus et Lacy
 Quincy et Tracy
 Stokes et Somery
 Seynt Johan et Seint Jay
 Greyle et Seynt Waltry
 Pynkeney et Pancley
 Mohant et Mountchansy

Loveyn et *Lucy*
 Artoys et Arcy
 Grevyle et Courcy
 Arras et Cressy
 Merle et Moubray
 Gornay et Courtney
 Haustlayng et Tornay
 Husee et Husay
 Pouchardon et Pomeray
 Longevyle et Longespay
 Peyns et Pountlarge
 Straunge et Sauvage.

I HAVE thought it proper to ad-
 duce the whole of this ; although,
 as Bromton has observed, it be not
 a complete list, in order to shew
 , that *some* of the coats of arms in

question belong to *some* of the followers of Duke William, and to give an opportunity to any one, more conversant in antiquary knowledge than myself, to point out any other names to which others of them may refer without the trouble of turning to the original.

FROM all the circumstances, above mentioned I feel a conviction in my own mind, that these tiles must have been coeval with the convent : but that they bear the arms of the followers of Duke William, as such, I cannot insist ; for there is no reason to suppose but that those fol-

lowers of William, who were entitled to such an honourable notice of their services, must have been, by far, more numerous than the several armorial bearings stained on these tiles.

THE truth, I take it, proceeds from another quarter. The learned Norman historian observes, that the Archbishop of Rouen consecrated this convent in the midst of a great concourse of people, and that the King and his *Nobles* endowed it with great riches. Here then we find the owners of these coats of arms, in the Nobles who contributed to

the endowment of the monastery. We find similar consecrations and endowments of monasteries, by the nobles present; such, among others, which I have somewhere met with, as at the abbey of Croyland; and upon a similar occasion I am told by a learned and respectable friend, the arms of those who contributed liberally were placed in the cathedral of Lichfield. In the cloisters at Canterbury are a great number of coats of arms, supposed to belong to those who promoted the elevation and endowment of that establishment. It is probable, that at the

consecration of the convent at Caen, many of William's followers assisted, and became benefactors to the institution. This would procure for them the honor of having their arms inserted in the paving tiles of the building ; from which this mistake of attributing these arms to his followers *only* might possibly take its rise.

I WROTE to a gentleman at Caen, who takes great pleasure, and is conversant in the antiquities of the place, for information upon the devices marked on these tiles,

D

considered as armorial bearings,
and from his answer I have made
the following extract :---

*“ Quelques recherches que j'aye pû
“ faire dans le Nobilier de Normandie,
“ et divers ouvrages concernant la
“ Noblesse du nombre des 16 Ecussons
“ de votre fac-simile, je suis seulement
“ parvenu à scavoir qu'il y en a cinq,
“ dont les armes sont celles de cinq
“ familles existantes actuellement ici
“ scavoir.*

“ No. V. La famille Mathan;

“ No. VI. La Roque Mesuillet,

“ No. VII. *Harcourt*,

“ No. IX. *La Riviere Predange*,

“ No. XII. *Talvas proche Isigny*.

“ *A l'égard, Monsieur des seigneurs*
 “ *dont vous avez pris copie de Bromton*
 “ *des nons dans un de vos anciens auteurs*
 “ *il existe encore nombre de familles en*
 “ *France qui les portent, dont il se*
 “ *peut bien que les auteurs ayent ac-*
 “ *compagné Guillaume le Conquerant a*
 “ *sa conquête de l' Angleterre.*”

By way of conclusion, I shall
 now, my Lord, subjoin represen-
 tations of the several coats of arms

on these tiles, with such observations as arise from each of them separately considered.

No. I.

THE arms of France---The King's mantle at St. Denis is semeé with fleurs de Lis as we find this coat of arms. The arms of France also quartered with those of England on the shields borne by the figures of angels in Westminster Hall are represented in the same manner. It was not indeed till lately, in comparison of the period to which these

tiles belong, that these the original arms of France were changed to *three* fleurs de Lis. I have often conceived that three representations of any device in coats of arms mean an indefinite number of them. If so, the three fleurs de Lis in the arms of France at this day are the same, as to the idea they are intended to convey, as the original arms here delineated. The number *three* has particular pretensions to such a distinction. The King of France was feudal lord of Duke William, and not improbably a benefactor to the convent.

No. II.

THE coat of arms of Matilda, consort of the Conqueror : she was daughter of the Earl of Flanders.

No. III.

THE coat of arms of Chaumberleyn, one of the followers of Duke William (see Bromton). This family is descended from the Counts of Tantanville in Normandy.

No. IV.

THE family of Mallet, who followed the Conqueror in his inva-

sion of England (see Bromton), bear this coat. These arms are found annexed to the name of Mallet in the armorial of Normandy

IN England we have families of the same name which bear similar arms; and as it is well known that in all times additions and variations have taken place in armorial bearings, although borne by the same families, I consider these families as descended from the same origin.

Gu. a fesse erm between six round buckles Or---Mallet of Derby.

Gu. a fesse erm between six square
buckles Or---Malet of Notting-
ham (See Edmondson.)

No. V.

THE coat of La famille Mathan:
it is so represented by the letter
cited. The arms are not unlike
those of the Barons Tregoze of
Herefordshire.

No. VI.

THE coat of La Roque Mesuillet.
See the letter cited

No. VII.

THE arms of the family of Harcourt, the name of one of the followers of Duke William mentioned by Bromton. This family is at present so an honourable a rank as well in this country as in Normandy as to need no comment. Both branches bear at this day the arms represented on this tile.

No. VIII.

THIS coat, by the armorial of Normandy, belongs to the family of Bray. I cannot but observe that

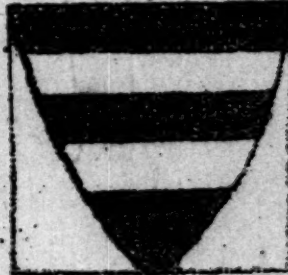
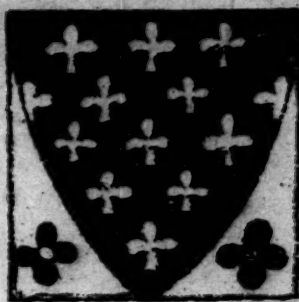
from the variation of the colour of the exterior part of the tile in order to represent the Cheif of the Sheild, it is evident that it was intended to delineate this coat in two colours only, without any attention to blazonry.

No. IX.

THESE arms by the letter cited, appear to belong to the family of La Riviere Predange.

ANOTHER friend has suggested to me that they are the arms of the Lucy's of Warwickshire; nor is it in the least improbable that the

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same arms by inter-marriages may have been at different periods borne by different families. With respect to the armorial bearings of the Lucy's, I shall make an extract from the Commentators on the following line in Shakspeare's Merry Wives of Windsor :

“ THE luce is the fresh fish, the salt fish is an old coat.”

TOLLET upon this says, “ Shakspeare seems to frolick here in his heraldry with a design *not* to be easily understood.” In Leland's Collectanæa, Vol. I. part ii. p. 615.

V

“ the arms of Geffrey de Lucy
 “ are ‘de goules pondré a croisil
 “ d’or a treis luz d’or.”

STEEVENS in his note on this
 subject says, “ The luce is a pike
 “ or jake :

“ Full many a fair partrich had he in mewe
 “ And many a breme and many a luce in stewe.”

IN Ferne’s Blazon of Gentry,
 1586, quarto, “ the arms of the
 “ Lucy family are represented as
 “ an instance, that ‘ signs of the
 “ coat should sometimes agree with
 “ the name.’ It is the coat of
 “ Geffrey de Lucy ; he did bear

[61]

" Gules three *lucies* hariant argent."
" gent."

No. X.

By a letter from my Brother, written from Caen, I find this coat belongs to the Ec^r. Seigneur de Longuallieris Beauvais in the Generality of Caen.

GYFFARD, one of the followers of William (see Bromton), has also pretensions to this coat of arms.

No. XI.

Without comment.

No. XII.

THIS coat by the letter cited, appears to belong to the family of Talvas proche Isigny.

No. XIII.

WITHOUT comment.

No. XIV.

THESE are the arms of Fiennes, Lord Saye and Sele.---Fyens (see Bromton) was one of the followers of Duke William.

No. XV.

THIS coat resembles that of Annesley.

No. XVI.

THIS coat I take to be that of Tilly, a great Norman family, Lords of Tibonville or Aquillon a Baron of England.

I BEG leave, my Lord, to observe, that I do not venture to advance my sentiments as founded on certainty : the different circumstances adduced have great weight in my mind ; and yet I shall be happy to receive further information from any one more conversant than myself in Anglo-Norman Antiquities.

[64]

I HAVE the honor to be with great
regard,

My Lord, I beg to inform

Your very faithful

And obedient Servant,

JOHN HENNIKER, jun.

To the EARL of LEICESTER,
President of the Society of
Antiquaries, &c. &c. &c.
with sixteen Norman tiles.

P. S. I request your Lordship to communicate
to the Society that I desire they will honor me
with the acceptance of these tiles, as monuments
of ancient Heraldry.



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10



12



14



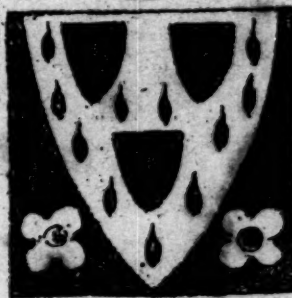
16



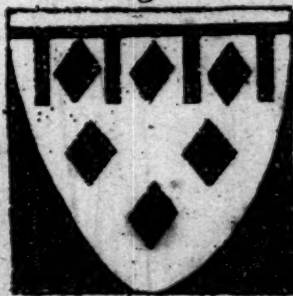
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11



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15



